

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical composition~~ A tablet comprising particles of metformin and particles of fibrate, wherein the ~~composition~~ tablet comprises about 70% to about 95% by weight of fibrate and metformin combined together, and about 5% to about 30% by ~~combined~~ weight of ~~at least one pharmaceutically acceptable~~ excipient, wherein said excipient consists of one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, wherein the weight ratio of metformin to fibrate is comprised between 500:90 and 850:35, and wherein the fibrate is selected from the group consisting of: fenofibrate, fenofibric acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester of fenofibric acid; and with the provision that if the weight ratio of metformin to fibrate is comprised between 500:90 and 500:65, said composition comprises a dispersion aid as a mandatory excipient.
2. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical composition~~ The tablet according to claim 1, wherein the weight ratio of metformin to fibrate is comprised between 500:54 and 850:65.
3. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical composition~~ The tablet according to claim 1, wherein the weight ratio of metformin to fibrate is comprised between 850:54 and 850:35.
4. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical composition~~ The tablet according to claim 1, in which at least about 70% of the fibrate is dissolved within about 15 minutes, at least about 80% of the fibrate is dissolved within about 30 minutes, at least about 85% of the fibrate is dissolved within about 45 minutes, as measured using the rotating blade method at 75 rpm according to the European Pharmacopoeia, in a dissolution medium containing 0.025 M sodium lauryl sulfate.
5. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical composition~~ The tablet according to claim 1, comprising:
about 74% to about 90% by weight of fibrate and metformin combined together; and

about 10% to about 26% by weight of pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

6. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical composition~~ The tablet according to claim 1, wherein said fibrate is in a crystalline phase, an amorphous phase, a semi-crystalline phase, or a semi-amorphous phase.
7. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical composition~~ The tablet according to claim 1, wherein the fibrate is fenofibrate.
8. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical composition~~ The tablet according to claim 1, wherein the fibrate is micronised or co-micronised.
9. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical composition~~ The tablet according to claim 1, wherein the fibrate is co-micronized with a surfactant.
10. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical composition~~ The tablet according to claim 1, wherein the particles of fibrate have an average size of less than about 20 μm .
11. (Cancelled)
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical composition~~ The tablet according to claim 1, wherein the fibrate is in the form of nanoparticles having an average size of less than about 2000 nm.
14. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical composition~~ The tablet according to claim 1, wherein metformin is in the form of the free base or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts.

15. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical composition~~ The tablet according to claim 1, comprising 850 mg of metformin and 80 mg of fenofibrate; 850 mg of metformin and 54 mg of fenofibrate; 500 mg of metformin and 80 mg of fenofibrate; 500 mg of metformin and 54 mg of fenofibrate; 500 mg of metformin and 40 mg of fenofibrate; 500 mg of metformin and 45 mg of fenofibrate, 500 mg of metformin and 71 mg of fenofibrate, 850 mg of metformin and 71 mg of fenofibrate; or 850 mg of metformin and 145 mg of fenofibrate.

16. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical composition~~ The tablet according to claim 1, wherein the ~~composition~~ tablet is formulated for oral, pulmonary, rectal, ophthalmic, colonic, parenteral, intracisternal, intravaginal, intraperitoneal, local, buccal, nasal, or topical administration.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical composition~~ The tablet of claim 17 ~~1, which is in the form of a tablet~~ weighing from about 500 to about 1500 mg.

20. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical composition~~ The tablet according to claim 1, further comprising one or more active substances selected from the group consisting of PPAR γ activators, HMG CoA reductase inhibitors and antihypertensives.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Withdrawn) A process for preparing a pharmaceutical composition as defined in claim 1, wherein said pharmaceutical composition comprises granulates obtained by the process comprising the steps of:

- a) preparing an aqueous dispersion of the fibrate, preferably in the presence of at least one binder and/or surface stabilizer;
- b) spraying the resulting dispersion onto a fluidized bed of metformin, whereby granulates are obtained;
- c) drying the resulting granulates.

24. (Withdrawn) A process for preparing a pharmaceutical composition as defined in claim 1, wherein said pharmaceutical composition comprises granulates obtained by the process comprises the steps of:

- a) subjecting to high-shear a mixture of metformin and the fibrate, preferably in the presence of at least one binder and/or surface stabilizer;
- b) adding water to the high-sheared mixture whereby granulates are obtained;
- c) drying the resulting granulates in a fluid bed dryer.

25. (Withdrawn) A process for preparing a pharmaceutical composition as defined in claim 1, wherein said pharmaceutical composition comprises granulates obtained by the process comprises the steps of:

- a) subjecting to high-shear a mixture of metformin and the fibrate, preferably in the presence of at least one binder and/or surface stabilizer;
- b) adding water to the high-sheared mixture whereby granulates are obtained;
- c) drying the resulting granulates in a one-pot system.

26. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical composition~~ The tablet according to claim 1, wherein the weight ratio of metformin to fibrate is comprised between 500:90 and 850:54.

27. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical composition~~ The tablet according to claim 10, wherein the particles of fibrate have an average size of less than about 10 μm .

28. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical composition~~ The tablet according to claim 13, wherein the fibrate is in the form of nanoparticles having an average size of less than about 1500 nm.
29. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical composition~~ The tablet according to claim 13, wherein the fibrate is in the form of nanoparticles having an average size of less than about 1000 nm.
30. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical composition~~ The tablet according to claim 13, wherein the fibrate is in the form of nanoparticles having an average size of than about 500 nm.
31. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical composition~~ The tablet according to claim 13, wherein the fibrate is in the form of nanoparticles having an average size of less than about 100 nm.
32. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical composition~~ The tablet according to claim 1, obtained from granulates comprising particles of metformin and particles of fibrate, adhering to said metformin particles.